

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2185

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CU VE

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER CALVANI ON RELATIONS WITH CUBA

1. DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION IS INVITED TO REMARKS ABOUT RELATIONS WITH CUBA MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTER CALVANI TO NATIONAL AND FOREIGN NEWSMEN AT CALVANI'S REGULAR YEAR-END GATHERING WITH THE PRESS. ON DECEMBER 18 CALVANI REPORTEDLY TOLD MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES THAT FOR SAKE OF "JUSTICE AND PEACE," NOT ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH DOMESTIC PACIFICATION POLICY, PRESENT GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED RELATIONS WITH SEVERAL COUNTRIES WITH WHICH VENEZUELA DID NOT PREVIOUSLY HAVE TIES.

2. IN CASE OF CUBA, HE REPORTEDLY SAID, "THERE WAS OPENED A PROCESS OF HUMAN RELATIONS AS I HAVE SAID...WE HAVE COME TO HAVE WITH CUBA MUCH MORE RELATIONS AND CONTACT THAN OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS." HE SAID VENEZUELA TOOK INITIATIVE TO FIND UNILATERAL SOLUTION TO BREAK HEMISPHERIC BLOCKADE AGAINST CUBA, BUT NOT HAVING ACCOMPLISHED THIS WAS ABLE TO ESTABLISH "TIES OF A HUMAN NATURE", AND WITHOUT HAVING TO BE FIRST IN RAISING ANTI-CUBA SANCTIONS "NEITHER DID WE NEED TO BE THE LAST."

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3. COMMENT: THERE IS A LOT OF LIFE AND INFLUENCE IN CALVANI YET.
NOTWITHSTANDING CALDERA'S DECISION TO LEAVE REESTABLISHMENT OF
RELATIONS TO HIS SUCCESSOR, THE FOREIGN MINISTER COULD BE HERALDING
A NOT-VERY-HELPFUL LINE ON CUBA TO BE TAKEN AT MEXICO MEETING.
MCCLINTOCK

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